

A CUP — — AT LAST



Horsemans Man Of The Match As Wycombe Win The Hospital Trophy

By "CHILTERN"

Wycombe Wanderers 2, Hendon 1

TWO cracking second-half goals by an effervescent Tony Horseman, and a grand all-round performance by a Wycombe side that had thrown away its Saturday blues, kept the Wycombe Hospital Cup in the town, and put paid to Hendon's hopes of putting at least one trophy in their board room.

For, like Wycombe, the Londoners look as if they will fall between two stools. Favourites for the Amateur Cup, they got beaten by Wealdstone in the final, and they look like being pipped on the Isthmian League post by Leytonstone.

You could almost feel sorry for Hendon, for they always seem to meet Wanderers at their brilliant best. On Monday night Wycombe played in the same rampant mood as they did when they won 3-1 at Hendon at the beginning of the month.

Wanderers had far more of the game than the score suggests, and had all their chances been utilised they would have won by half a dozen clear goals.

It's unbelievable that such a transformation can come over a team in two days. This was the side, with one exception, that failed to Bromley on Saturday. Yet on Monday there they are, giving one of the best amateur teams around a real going over.

THRILLS

There were no goals in the first-half, but for sheer football thrills and skill it was the better of the two. Maskell was never troubled, but at the other end Whiteacre was tested by Horseman, Bates, Thompson and Samuels.

In fact Horseman was the best player on the field. He was a real thorn in the Hendon side and his running with the ball, control and distribution was a treat to watch. He was also boss in the air, always out-jumping the hefty Hendon defence, and missing several goals by inches with his head.

Stuart Thompson had a grand game at inside-right, the drier conditions suiting him better. And Keith Samuels, who has looked unhappy for a couple of weeks, had one of his best games of the season. He chased intelligently, passed with precision and never once gave up trying.

Horseman's two goals came in the first 10 minutes of the second-half. He was shooting so often he was bound to find the net sooner or later.

His first came when he thumped home a clever overhead pass from Samuels from a Baker cross. The second came four minutes later from a well-placed Thompson pass. Horseman collected the ball, swivelled and shot into the bottom corner of the net all in one movement.

Half-backs Baker, Rundle and Gale all had a good time. Rundle was as strong as ever, and Baker and Gale tackled with more determination than in the past two games.

Roystone, playing in his familiar position of right-back in the absence of Bradshaw, looked a different proposition, although this player always gives all he has got whenever he plays. Beck had a masterly game at left-back.

In goal Maskell was rarely troubled, and had no chance whatever of stopping Laurie Churchill's last minute face-saving goal for Hendon.

The only blot on an otherwise unblemished Wycombe copybook came in the 73rd minute when penalty "ace" Paul Bates missed his second spot kick in three days. Otherwise he had a good game.

Wycombe: J. Maskell; P. Roystone, J. Beck; B. Baker, I. Rundle, C. Gale; K. Samuels, S. Thompson, P. Bates, T. Horseman, L. Merrick.

Hendon: R. Whiteacre; D. Hogwood, M. Cooper; J. Evans, R. Tweed, R. Cantwell; L. Churchill, B. Woosley, D. Swain, D. Hyde, D. Lakey.